



**Dramarama Theater Tours**  
**Chicago Theater Tour**  
 September 25-October 1, 2018  
 Itinerary

**TUESDAY, September 25**

<b>Welcome to Chicago!</b>	<p>Arrive at O-Hare or Midway airport and take a shuttle, Uber or taxi to the Alise Hotel 1 W. Washington Street, Chicago, IL. In a city chock full of awesome—cuisine, art, architecture, shopping—our hotel is a historic gem just steps from Millennium Park. Not to be outdone by the amazing city around it, The Alise is housed in a National Historic Landmark building and is the perfect jumping off spot for exploring downtown Chicago. In the Loop and with the Theater District just steps away, you are poised to take full advantage of all the city has to offer. The Alise Chicago is a bold newcomer with incomparable style, grace and warmth.</p>
<b>7:00pm</b>	<p>Meet the group for a Welcome Dinner (included) in the Burnham Room in our hotel. Our menu tonight:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>First Course</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mixed greens salad with cucumber, carrot, radish, goat cheese, honey vinaigrette        Grilled asparagus with bacon, dijonaise</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Second course</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crispy salmon with melted leeks, celery root puree        Mussels with red curry, cilantro, grilled baguette        Orecchiete with roasted tomatoes, kale, garlic</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dessert</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Apple tartlet</p> <p>Two glasses of wine is included with our dinner. You are welcome to order additional wine/cocktails. Please pay the server individually.</p>
<b>9:30pm</b>	<p>Enjoy a free evening in Chicago or get your beauty sleep for a big day tomorrow.</p>

**WEDNESDAY, September 26**

<b>7:00 to 10:30am</b>	<p>Full American Breakfast in our hotel in the Atwood Restaurant in our hotel. Our group has the All American Breakfast Voucher that gives us the option of enjoying coffee or tea, fresh squeezed juice, and our All American Breakfast with 2 eggs, choice of protein, breakfast potatoes, and toast OR we order from the menu up to a cash value of \$24.00. (Should your bill go over the \$24.00 limit, the price difference plus applicable tax and gratuity will be billed to your room account).</p>
<b>11:00pm</b>	<p>Meet in the lobby for a Walking and Food tour! Our guide, Elizabeth will pick us up at the hotel and take us on a whirlwind three-hour tour of Chicago. We will be stopping at Argo Tea for a tea tasting, Chicago Grill for a Chicago Style Hot dog, Pizano's for pizza, Sugar Bliss Patisserie for brownies and finally Fannie May for a chocolate tasting. We will walk through the Palmer House Hotel, Millennium Park, The Cultural Center and other scenic</p>

	spots in the downtown South Loop neighborhood. The tour will end The Alise Hotel.
<b>2:00pm</b>	Free time to explore the wonders of this grand city.
<b>4:45pm</b>	Dinner on your own and on your own to get to the theater. Steppenwolf Theatre is 15 minutes by Uber – give or take for traffic. If you have signed up for dinner at the Willow Room, meet in the lobby at to take our Ubers to the restaurant. The Willow Room is one block from Steppenwolf Theatre.
<b>5:30pm</b>	Dinner at the Willow Room. Our menu consists of: <u>First Course</u> Caesar Salad <u>Second Course</u> Angel Hair – truffle crème, parmesan Roasted Chicken – black-eyed peas, pearl onion, chicken confit, jus Scallops – charred maitake, corn, charred onion, corn foam Stone Bass – piquillo puree, chanterelle mushroom, littleneck clams Bavette Steak–charred onion soubise, trumpet mushroom, cipollini, salsa verde, broccoli rabe <u>Dessert</u> Smores Coffee Espuma Strawberry Shortcake Vanilla Gelato One glass of red/white wine included, You are welcome to order an additional glass of wine or cocktail. Please pay individually.
<b>7:15pm</b>	Walk one block to the theater with the group.
<b>7:30pm</b> <b>Run time: 2 hours and 25 minutes; one intermission</b>	<b>Performance:</b> <i>Downstate</i> by Bruce Norris ~ Directed by Pam MacKinnon Steppenwolf Theatre 1650 N Halsted St, Chicago, IL 60614 In downstate Illinois four sex offenders share a group home where they must negotiate their place in a world that doesn't want them. A man shows up to confront his childhood abuser—but does he want closure or retribution? This provocative new play by Pulitzer Prize-winning ensemble member Bruce Norris pushes moral boundaries as it questions what happens when society deems anyone unworthy of forgiveness. <i>Downstate</i> is a co-commission and co-production with the National Theatre of Great Britain. This exciting collaboration will premiere at Steppenwolf in fall 2018 and transfer to the National Theatre in spring 2019. Under the direction of Tony Award winner Pam MacKinnon, <i>Downstate</i> will feature an American and British cast and creative team.
<b>10:00pm</b>	We will meet outside the theater and Uber back to our hotel. Night owls unite in the hotel bar for a discussion of the play and a chance to chat with fellow tourees.

### THURSDAY, September 27

<b>7:00 to 10:30am</b>	Full American Breakfast in our hotel restaurant.
<b>10:30am-11:30am</b>	Take your coffee and meet the group in the Burnham Room (same place we had our welcome dinner). Our guest this morning is Pam MacKinnon, director of <i>Downstate</i> and coincidentally, ACT's new artistic director.
<b>11:30am</b>	Free time to explore Chicago.
<b>5:15pm</b>	If you have signed up for the optional dinner at 312 Restaurant, meet Helen and Sarah in the lobby and we will walk 7 minutes to the restaurant. If dinner on your own, see you at the Cadillac Palace Theatre, address below.
<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Performance:</b> <i>Tootsie</i> by Larry Gelbart and Murray Schisgal, along with uncredited writing contributions by Elaine May and Barry Levinson

	<p>Cadillac Palace Theatre 151 West Randolph Street</p> <p>A new Broadway musical based on "Tootsie," the 1982 Hollywood hit from Columbia Pictures about a struggling actor who disguises himself as a woman to secure a role on a soap opera, only for romantic complications to ensue. "Tootsie" will have its pre-Broadway world premiere in Chicago this fall before heading to Broadway in the spring of 2019. The Broadway actor Santino Fontana — the voice of Prince Hans in the animated movie "Frozen" and Greg on CW's "Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" — is to star in the role first made famous by <a href="#">Dustin Hoffman</a> in Sydney Pollack's movie. The musical features a new score by David Yazbek ("The Band's Visit" and "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels"), a book by Robert Horn and choreography by Denis Jones. Scott Ellis is the director. David Rockwell (sets), William Ivey Long (costumes), Donald Holder (lights) and Brian Ronan (sound) are the designers.</p>
<b>TBA</b>	Walk with the group back to our hotel and for our casual nightly discussion and spirits.

### FRIDAY, September 28

<b>7:00 to 10:00am</b>	Full American Breakfast in our hotel restaurant.
<b>10:00am</b>	Take your coffee and meet the group in the Burnham room. Sarah, our artistic guide will lead a discussion with cast members of <i>Indecent</i> , Benjamin Magnuson and Andrew White.
<b>11:00am</b>	Free Time! Free time! Enjoy this fabulous city! Suggestions: Take in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, shop the glam shops and boutiques of the Magnificent Mile, marvel at the details of the Rookery, take a ride on the Hop On-Hop Off Trolley and double-decker bus – it takes you all over the city or enjoy the free walking tour of Millennium Park, at 11:30am or 1:00pm.
<b>5:30pm</b>	Meet in the lobby to board our Ubers to the famous comedy club, Second City.
<b>6:00pm</b>	Dinner (included) at Second City. We have opted for dinner from the 1959 Kitchen and Bar. We are having the Pre-Theater dinner Package and the "drink" package that gives you all you can drink (oh my!) for the duration of the show.
<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Performance:</b> <i>Dream Freaks Fall From Space</i> Second City 1616 N. Wells Street
<b>TBA</b>	We will convene to take Ubers back to our hotel. Night owls unite in the bar!

### SATURDAY, September 29

<b>8:00 to 10:00am</b>	Full American Breakfast in our hotel restaurant.
<b>10:00am</b>	Take your coffee and meet the group in the designated conference room. Meet a panel of young artists trying to "make it" in Chicago. We will meet Caitlin Taylor, an MFA graduate and Brandon Dahlquist, her husband. They met on the stage of ACT's <i>Little Night Music</i> and it has been a fairy tale romance ever since. In addition, another two actor couple will be joining them for an interesting romp of hearing about the lives of these young actors.
<b>2:15pm</b>	Meet in the lobby for a ride to the Navy Pier where we will take get to know the city on an architectural boat Cruise down the Chicago River. We will see the city's famous architecture on this 75-minute tour. With commentary from your onboard guide, watch the spectacular skyline glide by, including more than 40 notable buildings like the Aon Center, the Wrigley Building and the John Hancock Building. Cover all three branches of the Chicago River, passing the East Bank Club, the old Post Office Building and the Willis Tower (formerly known as the Sears Tower).
<b>4:00pm</b>	Walk along the Navy Pier where you can choose your dinner venue from many restaurants. The theater for tonight's performance is on the Navy Pier.

<b>7:30pm</b> Run Time: 2 hours and 30 minutes one intermission	<b>Performance:</b> <i>Nell Gwyn</i> by Jessica Swale   directed by Christopher Luscombe Chicago Shakespeare Theatre 800 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, 60611  London 1660, free of Puritan austerity and reveling once more in its theater, where a new style has taken hold, and women now act alongside men. When The King’s Company at Drury Lane casts Nell Gwynn, an orange seller with a quick wit and beauty to match, as its first leading lady, she captures the hearts of her audience—and King Charles II.
	Follow Helen and Sarah to the Uber pick up spot.
<b>10:00pm</b>	Return to our hotel and enjoy a late night drink and discussion.

### SUNDAY, September 30

<b>8:00 to 10:00am</b>	Full American Breakfast in our hotel restaurant.
<b>10:30pm</b>	Free time... but not for long. Last chance to shop or do a museum hop.
<b>2:00pm</b>	Meet in the lobby to Uber to Victory Gardens Theatre.
<b>3:00pm</b> <b>Run time:</b> 100 minutes, no intermission	<b>Performance:</b> <i>Indecent</i> By Paula Vogel ~ Directed by Gary Griffin Victory Gardens Theatre <i>“Indecent, the superbly realized, powerful new play by Paula Vogel, sheds an eye-opening light on a little-known time when theatrical history, Jewish culture, and the frank depiction of homosexuality intersected, with explosive results.” —The New York Times</i> Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright <b>Paula Vogel</b> ( <i>How I Learned to Drive</i> ) tells the deeply moving story of the controversial 1923 Broadway debut of Jewish playwright Sholem Asch’s <i>God of Vengeance</i> — a play about a forbidden lesbian romance that enchanted and outraged audiences. Inspired by true events, <i>Indecent</i> , is performed by an ensemble of seven actors and three musicians portraying more than 40 roles to chart an explosive moment in theatrical history and the artists who risked their careers and lives to perform it. Award-winner <b>Gary Griffin</b> ( <i>Hand To God, Fun Home</i> ) returns to Victory Gardens to direct this 2017 Tony Award-nominated play.
<b>4:50pm</b>	Meet outside the theater to follow Sarah and Helen to our Uber pick-up spot to return to our hotel.
<b>7:15pm</b>	Meet in the lobby to walk 7 minutes to our Farewell dinner at Catch 35, 35 W. Wacker Drive.
<b>7:30pm</b>	Farewell Dinner (included)  First Course Shrimp and Crab Bisque Mixed Greens – roma tomatoes, carrots, tomato basil vinaigrette Caesar – parmesan crouton Second Course Phad Thai- chicken or veggies & tofu, rice noodles, bean sprouts, chili, egg, tofu, peanuts, lime Milanese Style Lake Superior Whitefish – parmesan & panko crusted, yuzu beurre blanc, pickled onions, baby arugula, cherry tomatoes, citrus vinaigrette Grilled Atlantic Salmon – cucumbers, shallots, lemon dill Filet Mignon Medallions – maître d’hotel butter, parmesan garlic roasted red potato, creamed spinach, roasted garlic Tuna Poke Bowl – edamame, scallions, carrots, avocado, radish, cucumber, seaweekd, soy, chili aioli Dessert Cheese Cake – seasonal Key Lime Pie – graham cracker crust filled with light key lime custard, topped with whipped cream

	Two glasses of premium wine – Chardonnay, Cabernet, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir If are welcome to order additional drinks. Please pay the server individually.
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**MONDAY, October 1**

<b>7:00 to 10:00am</b>	Full American Breakfast in our hotel restaurant. We all head back to San Francisco. Parting is such sweet sorrow!
<b>TBA</b>	Depart on your own to SFO and other various locations.
<b>Thank you!</b>	Thanks for touring with Dramarama Theater Tours. I greatly appreciate your business and I look forward to touring with you in the future. 2019 brings tours to New York, Dublin, Chicago and NEW! Santa Fe (yes, opera in addition to theater!) Love to have you along. For more information call Helen at 5103507675 or <a href="mailto:Helen@dramaramatours.com">Helen@dramaramatours.com</a> .